

# LABOR CLARION

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No. 40

## DELEGATE O'CONNELL SUBMITS REPORT

Work of Vancouver Convention of A. F. of L. Summarized

Officers and Delegates, San Francisco Labor Council:

As your delegate to the fifty-first annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, held at Vancouver, B. C., October 5 to 15, inclusive, 1931, the undersigned herewith submits report as follows:

The opening of the fifty-first convention was marked by the usual concert, invocation, and speeches, preceding the turning over of the gavel to President William Green by Percy R. Bengough, chairman of the reception and entertainment committee. President Green made suitable reply to the introductory speeches, and without further ado began his analysis of the great problem before the convention, the question of unemployment and labor's remedies toward a rational solution of that problem. He stated: "There has come no collective voice from the management of industry, from the officers of corporations, from those who control and direct industry that could be accepted and construed as a practical remedy for our economic ills. Only labor, the men and women who toil, have developed a program, a plan, a remedy, and with all the vigor it possesses has asked the governments of these respective countries, the owners and managers of industry, economists and scientists, to accept our plan and apply it as a remedy in this distressing condition. The answer we have thus far received has been to reduce wages, to add to our misery and to our distress, to destroy the limited purchasing power of the masses of the people as it now exists, to make it possible for men and women to buy less and to use less and to consume less." And he continued:

"We propose that men and women shall be given the opportunity to work, that they shall share in the work available, that one man or one woman is as good as another, that there shall be no discrimination, but that all, just like a family, shall share in the work available."

This was the keynote of the speech of President Green, and the keynote of this convention. And the reason for this changed condition and remedy is to be found in the next sentence, reading:

### Establishment of Five-Day Week

"We hold that this can be done through an adjustment of the working time and in accordance with the economic and industrial requirements of this day and age. Mechanical processes, science and invention, the substitution of mechanical forces for human service has made it absolutely impossible for industry to supply men work continually under the old six-day program, as we did years ago when hand labor characterized the personnel of the factory and the transportation lines of the nation. Now the machine is doing the work that human hands formerly did. Notwithstanding that fact, the managers of industry still persist in their efforts to have men work six days per week and long hours while others are idle. We propose the immediate establishment of the five-day work week in both public and private industries. We propose further that the working day shall be so shortened as to meet the requirements of this unemployment situation and work divided through an adjustment of the working time, so that the slack of employment may be taken up and all men and women given an opportunity to work."

Further on in his speech he said: "Forty million men working, eight million idle—eight million can not buy; forty million will not buy because they are afraid that they, too, may become numbered among the army of unemployed on the morrow. How can they ever release the great purchasing power of the masses so long as we continue this condition of unemployment and so long as we reduce wages? For industry, foolish as they are, are doing nothing more than destroying their own market when they reduce wages. And so they may as well understand now as to learn the lesson through a more costly experience that prosperity and normal conditions can never return until the buying power of the masses of the people, until the consuming market, represented by the masses of the people, is developed to its highest point."

And his conclusion breathed the great spirit of our movement, and its determination to succeed, as he said:

"What a great task! What a great work is before us in the atmosphere of this wonderful city, hewn out of the primeval forest! We shall work honestly and diligently, endeavoring to realize our objectives and our ideals. And lastly we are thinking about our record, the record of this great movement. We are permitted here to survey a pathway made through fifty years of service, and as we survey it, weigh its accomplishments, appraise its failures and are inspired by its ideals and principles, we shall think about the pioneer and the crusader and the constructive trade unionist who helped make this great movement possible. It is in that spirit, the spirit of the crusader, the spirit of the pioneer, the spirit of the constructive trade unionist, that we approach the consideration of our questions and the solution of our problems."

### Routine of Convention Begins

After President Green's keynote speech had been delivered the committee on credentials reported some 336 delegates in attendance, and during the afternoon session rules of order were adopted, committees appointed, and a resume of the Executive Council's voluminous report read to the convention. Together with fifty-four resolutions presented to the convention, the aforesaid record comprised the first day's proceedings.

The second day began with reading of communications, various announcements, presentation of badges to the fraternal delegates, and thereafter listening to the delivery of speeches from past Secretary of Labor, now United States Senator James J. Davis of Pennsylvania; from Edward F. Henning, former assistant Secretary of Labor, and from Frank N. Brooks, vice-commander of the American Legion. The convention then adjourned for the day, and the proceedings contain thirty-five additional resolutions, from No. 55 to No. 89, inclusive. During the afternoon there was a motor trip arranged for the ladies, and in the evening was held the regular meeting of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council, attended by many delegates to the convention.

The Wednesday forenoon session was devoted to interesting speeches by prominent men, among whom were Congressman Horr of the State of Washington; Edward Keating, editor of "Labor"; A. B. Swales, an old trade unionist from England; Spencer Miller, Jr., secretary of the Workers' Education Bureau, who delivered a most instructive

address well worthy of study by any member of organized labor interested in the future development of this country and the American labor movement. Another resolution, No. 90, dealing with a program against unemployment, was by unanimous consent presented by the delegate from the American Federation of Teachers.

During the afternoon there was given an outing over the waters of the Sound in the steamship Princess Elizabeth that was much enjoyed by all who made the trip.

The fourth day, Thursday, October 8, was devoted to the addresses of the British and the Canadian fraternal delegates during the morning session. These addresses were most interesting and are well worth the reading as printed in the day's proceedings. During the afternoon session convention committees began their reports. The first committee to report was the Committee on Labels, which gave a general outline of the methods in use to promote the union label. The report concludes with the following paragraph:

"In days of old a mighty crusade was inaugurated, carried forward and crowned with final victory, under the slogan whose translation reads: 'By this sign we conquer.' What the organized labor movement needs is to become surcharged with that crusader spirit which will surmount obstacles, smile in the face of temporary reversals, and resolutely 'carry on' until the weapons of her warfare shall be made to gleam in the sunlight radiance of a permanent victory."

Committee on Organization presented its report, calling first attention to the Executive Council's report on the subject of "Organizing Work," especially that part thereof on page 124 reading as follows:

### Attention to Organization Urged

"We believe that more thought and study should be given to methods and technique of organizing, so that our organizers shall be more effective in singling out latent capacity for leadership and in developing groups that will be able to carry on union activities on their own initiative. The essential thing is to develop understanding of what to do and how to do it. The affairs of a union are like the affairs of business—they require thought and sustained organized effort."

I have quoted this paragraph to emphasize to the younger elements in our movement that the older leadership is on the lookout for promising material among the younger members, and that what is looked for and will be encouraged is not simply youth and enthusiasm, but constructive ability, and such will always be appreciated, wherever it be found, that it is a scarce article, and must be encouraged to promote the continued progress of our movement, which is constantly being beset by new developments and new problems that require intelligent and courageous treatment of a different kind from in the past, and that it is gatherings like this convention that accentuate these needs, and bring to our consciousness a better understanding of what is wanted to promote our interests as organized workers.

To this committee had been referred Resolution No. 7, which proposed to allow representation of Women's Auxiliaries in these conventions. Committee recommended the matter be held in abeyance until some form of national federation:

(Continued on Page Eleven)



## FOR PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

*Would Make Distinctions Between Employees*

*With no thought of indorsing the proposal, but as a contribution to current discussion, the Labor Clarion reproduces here an article recently printed in the "Wall Street Journal," from the pen of Thomas F. Woodlock, dealing with unemployment insurance. The idea of industry itself handling any plan of unemployment insurance probably is suggested by the fear that unless something is done by the employers along this line the government itself will feel impelled to take up the subject. Visions of the horrid "dole" as in force in European countries no doubt will stir up interest in any plan to put into effect unemployment insurance under private auspices.—Editor.*

By THOMAS F. WOODLOCK

About the most instructive contribution to the subject of so-called "unemployment insurance" that has thus far appeared is that of James W. Hook, president of the Geometric Tool Company of New Haven. It was delivered as an address to the Conference on Management Problems of the Smaller Industries held in August last at Lake George. It seems to this writer that Mr. Hook sees and goes to the heart of the problem and grapples with it upon logical lines. Responsibility of industry to its stable workers is its first principle. "To them," Mr. Hook says, "industry certainly owes all that it can safely afford to help safeguard them from unemployment and the interrupted income that goes with it." What he has to say mainly concerns them. It is to be remembered that he is speaking from the experience of one of the "smaller" industries, but it is also to be remembered that these "smaller" industries employ a great many people, for they are very numerous as compared with the large units.

Of the present unemployed workers numbering,

say, five millions, Mr. Hook estimates that 25 per cent are for one reason or another normally "unemployable." Thirty five per cent are "unstable" because nomadic in their habits, and Mr. Hook points out that it is chiefly this class of worker who is benefited by appropriations for "public works." It is the remaining 40 per cent, the "stable" workers, who should be the chief concern of industry.

As Mr. Hook sees it, industry as such is not directly responsible for the first group; it is "society's" business to provide for these. For the second class provision should not be the sole or even the major responsibility of industry. The best way of dealing with this class is by public works timed for performance during depressed periods. The third class is the class for which industry should provide and it is Mr. Hook's experience with this class and his conclusions therefrom that are of interest.

### Offers Experience and Proposals

In brief, his study of the facts shows that so far as the "stable group" of his employees was concerned, a reserve fund established on the basis of 0.75 per cent of the company's pay roll for the seven years, 1923-1929, would have sufficed to provide 80 per cent of normal wages for employees with dependents and 60 per cent of normal wages for those without dependents for one year, during which the plant was operating on a "short-time" basis. In point of fact, the actual reserves established during the same seven years for other purposes amounted to 13½ per cent of the pay roll. And Mr. Hook says: "If our experience is at all representative it would seem that industry can well afford to tide its stable employees over extended periods of depressed business. It is an obligation that industry should voluntarily assume."

His proposals may be summarized as follows:

1. Industry should make careful study to determine who are its stable employees.
2. On the basis of these studies it should be ascertained what it would cost to protect the incomes of these employees at definite percentages of their pay during the present—which may be considered a maximum—depression.
3. When this depression has passed away plans should be made for meeting the next depression. These plans should include as their base "a stabilization program so drawn as to offer maximum incentive to employer and employee to regularize incoming business and maintain employment."
4. There should be created a reserve fund (trusted) from profits in prosperous years to maintain incomes of stable workers at stated percentages of normal for predetermined periods of time, and to pay dismissal wages to those who are dropped.

### Possible Legal Supervision Would Cost More

So far the assumption is that industry alone should assume the burden of creating these reserves. Mr. Hook admits that this is debatable and that many will hold the view that there should be a joint creation of employer and employee. If there is to be a jointly created fund the contributions thereto should be separately trusted. He admits that industry may be unwilling to assume the burden, but believes that this probably will result in its being forced ultimately by law to assume an even greater burden, through schemes for general unemployment insurance which are likely to have as their final result the much disliked "dole" as in England and Germany. "Let industry solve its own problem," he says, "if necessary under regulatory laws that will make all units of industry accept the principle uniformly. But let industry do the job."

In these proposals there is refreshing good sense and it is highly important that the distinction between "stable" employees, "unstable" employees and "unemployables" be borne in mind in fixing responsibility for their protection.

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## THE LABOR CLARION

is the official newspaper of the San Francisco Labor Council, and carries the announcements of that body. It also keeps its readers informed as to the activities of the American Federation of Labor and its affiliated unions. A union member who does not read the Labor Clarion is missing an opportunity for usefulness to his organization by not keeping informed as to the work of organized labor in its great uplift work. A special subscription rate is made for unions wishing to subscribe for their entire membership.

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## PROGRAM OF RAILROADS AWAITED

*Not Yet Certain That Wage Cuts Will Be Attempted*

Two factors of tremendous importance were thrust into the industrial situation in Washington, D. C., last week, both bearing heavily on the well-being of wage earners in the immediate future, says an I. L. N. S. dispatch.

One of these factors was the Interstate Commerce Commission's denial of a blanket 15 per cent freight increase and its permission for increases on specified commodities other than food-stuffs, together with the promise of executive action to assist railroad credit.

The other was the predication of the American Federation of Labor that general improvement is at hand. "Unquestionably," said the Federation's "Survey of Business," "underlying factors in the business situation are improving."

### What Is the Next Step?

As to the first of these—the railroad freight ruling—it is safe to say that the entire world of labor and industry is waiting to discover what next steps, if any, the roads will take. That the roads would undertake to bring about wage reductions if their rate plea was denied has been common talk. However, the ruling, a fifty-page printed affair, while denying a flat raise, offers opportunity for increased revenue in specific directions and may take the ground from under any wage-tampering plan.

The American Federation of Labor Survey, issued just ahead of the Interstate Commerce Commission's ruling, said: "Improvement in the railroad situation will help to restore confidence." Immediately after the ruling was announced, President William Green issued a statement in Sacramento, Calif., declaring that organized labor would make serious objections if a wage-reduction move was undertaken by the roads.

### Brotherhoods Watchfully Alert

President Bert M. Jewell of the Railway Employees' Department of the American Federation of Labor, in Washington the day following issuance of the Interstate Commerce Commission's decision, declined to offer any comment. It is understood that all rail union executives have reached a decision to offer no comment until the lengthy decision can be thoroughly studied. It is conceded that the decision throws the railroad situation into an entirely new category, raising new problems, new possibilities and a new basis for whatever action may be decided upon by organized labor.

Acting in concert, the American Federation of Labor railroad shop craft unions and the train service brotherhoods are expected to study the decision line by line and to examine into the new background created before offering any statement. Furthermore, they are likely to await a move or pronouncement by the railroad executives before declaring any plan of action, if any new action is found necessary at all.

### Believe Reductionists in Minority

An International Labor News Service informant, close to some of the important railroad executives, said, after the decision, that in his belief most of the important executives were not in favor of wage reductions and that this belief was held in particular by the executives in the big four consolidation groups, in which Daniel Willard of the Baltimore & Ohio is an outstanding figure. Some of the losing Southern roads take a different view of the situation, but if there is concert of action, in the belief of this informant, the proponents of wage reductions will be heavily outweighed.

There is a growing view, outside of union circles, that the decision of the Interstate Commerce Commission, offering certain specified freight rate increases, has drawn the teeth of the wage-reduction

movement. The commission estimates that the increases will yield from \$100,000,000 to \$125,000,000 additional revenue to the roads and it is believed that with this additional money in their pockets the roads would cut a sorry figure in demanding reductions, particularly in view of the fact that great numbers of railroad workers are unemployed and standing more than their share of the depression burden.

### Federation Sees Hopeful Signs

Added to the bright side of the picture, lending additional weight to the new revenue to be had by the roads, is the American Federation of Labor's important discovery of favorable signs on the industrial horizon. If general industrial improvement and a general improvement of the credit situation are added to the increased railroad revenue from freight haulage, the roads, in the judgment of some trade union observers, are entirely robbed of any platform upon which to stand in asking workers to take further punishment.

There is in some quarters something amounting almost to jubilation in the new factors thrown into the situation this week, these being the freight decision, the upturn in the consumer commodity field and the promise held forth for the easing of credit through the new giant Credit Corporation inaugurated by the bankers upon presidential suggestion.

On the other hand, the long-continued depression has taught caution and nobody is inclined to accept indications at face value. The terrific decline in workers' buying power, due to unemployment and wage-cuts, will not be overcome easily, it is pointed out. Moreover, unemployment continued to increase during September. The whole emphasis of official labor utterances continues to be: Maintain wages, stand fast in defense of buying power, shorten hours to share work, create new work.

### LEGION PLANS FOR ARMISTICE DAY

Every community in California from the Oregon line to the Mexican border will be the center of an Armistice Day celebration, according to advices being received from post commanders by James K. Fisk, state adjutant of the American Legion. The affairs in the various places are to be designated as "home-coming rallies" and all veterans in the vicinity are to be invited to participate. Parades and patriotic addresses will be the main features of most of the events. "The Armistice Day rallies will mark the last day of American Legion Week for the re-enrollment of 1931 Legion members for 1932," said Fisk.

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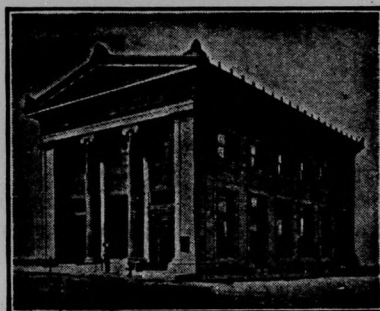
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FRIDAY, November 6, 1931

## "OUTLAW" UNIONS

Discussing the action of the California State Federation of Labor in declaring a seceding organization an "outlaw," a defender of that organization objects to the term quite vigorously and declares: "We are all good union men fighting for right against might—fighting for the truth against lying propaganda. Surely the cause of two thousand men will not go unheard by the A. F. of L."

The American Federation, in its more than a half century of usefulness to the cause of organized labor, has thoroughly learned one lesson, and that is that divided authority and action in one craft can no more be tolerated than can such a situation in a local union. There must be unity of action; and this can not be brought about by dividing the forces of labor.

A union or a group of unions which secedes from the established and recognized organization of the craft because of disapproval of its policies or activities, in which opportunity to register approval or disapproval has been accorded, is in the same position as the individual member who tears up his union card and determines to defy the union and to disregard its authority.

There have been secessions before now, and during the year 1915 the then editor of the Labor Clarion, the late James W. Mullen, expressed himself on the subject in the following language, which is just as applicable today as it was then:

"It has taken years of patient and tireless efforts to build up the labor movement to the altitude it occupies today, and it was plain necessity for solidarity of the workers that inspired these efforts on the part of those who hoped to see the toilers in a position to bargain on something like equal terms with the employer; and the man who does anything to dis sever the ties that bind wage workers together is an enemy of the toiler and of humanity.

"Frequently we hear feather-brained individuals complain concerning the action of this or that organization, and urge secession as a remedy. Such an individual may be honest, but if he is, then he is unintelligent, because no intelligent trade unionist who really desires to promote the welfare of the worker can see anything to be gained by tearing the workers apart and dissipating the power that unity gives.

"The workers are all struggling under a tremendous burden, and obviously the load can only be cast off their shoulders by all heaving together. Scattered efforts by separate units can have no influence whatever in extricating the toiler from beneath the weight that holds him down.

"It is true, sometimes, that complaints made

against officers and organizations have merit behind them, but the place to remedy difficulties is on the inside and not on the outside. Not in one case in a thousand can secession correct wrongs that have grown up within an organization. This has been demonstrated times without number in the American Labor Movement. Every such movement has resulted in great harm being done, not only to the secessionists, but to unionism generally, and those who advocate or provoke the breaking up in this manner of established organizations must be put down as perils to the best interests of the great army of men and women who are struggling to improve the conditions under which the world's work is performed.

"There has in the past been a tendency on the part of the rank and file to condone such offenses, but thanks to the experiences encountered in the journey of the labor movement, that tendency is now rapidly dying out, and there is a disposition both to prevent secession, without regard to the cause which prompts it, and to let secessionists paddle their own canoe without any aid or assistance from those who remain with the bona fide organizations of labor. Had this policy been adopted and rigidly adhered to earlier in the history of the movement it is certain there would have been much greater progress toward decent conditions than has yet been recorded.

"The sensible thing, for those who think they have a grievance, to do is to remain within the fold and present their arguments to the membership. In this way wrongs can be corrected, for the membership can be depended upon to see to it that justice is done. If a complainant is unable to convince a majority as to the merit of claims made, then it is pretty certain that the accusations are very largely illusory, or at any rate are without sufficient foundation to warrant action.

"Sometimes, it is true, it is hard to get the facts to the rank and file, but if the cause is worth anything at all it is worth the application of the old adage, 'If at first you don't succeed, try, try gain,' as fighting on the inside generally produces results, while shouting from without very rarely has any effect. The outside whiner is, and should be, treated as an enemy, bent upon the destruction of the thing he has been unable to control.

"The labor movement has reached a stage in its development where internal disputes must be settled in sensible fashion, and those who refuse to submit their cases to this mode of adjustment will be given no quarter, and no assistance whatever. Only by pursuing such a course can the workers hope to attain any degree of success. To follow any other policy is to offer encouragement to every little pinhead who imagines he has a grievance against someone and is willing to rend the movement in order to satisfy himself."

## DISAGREES WITH GREEN

The Philadelphia "Record" stands almost alone in its reiteration of the inevitability of unemployment insurance in this country. Concerning the sacrifice of the workingman's liberty, this newspaper insists:

"Unemployment insurance legislation can easily be framed so as to make it unnecessary for union men to work in non-union shops.

"The mention of 'liberty' in this connection is a ghastly jest. Liberty to starve? Is that what Mr. Green fights for?

"Green wants every one of the advantages unemployment insurance would bring about. Yet he shies at the name.

"He wants a federal dole 'to feed the hungry'—and is afraid of a businesslike arrangement which would obviate the dole."

The tyranny of a prince in an oligarchy is not so dangerous to the public welfare as the apathy of a citizen in a democracy.—De Montesquieu.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO HIS HONOR

The re-election of Mayor Rossi is received with much satisfaction by the organized workers of San Francisco. The Labor Clarion believes it voices the sentiments of organized labor in this city in congratulating his honor and wishing him a successful administration of the office during the coming four years. It will be his duty to inaugurate the new system of government under the recently adopted charter, and it is the confident belief of this newspaper that he will be actuated by the highest sentiments of patriotism and civic duty in putting into effect the provisions of that instrument. That he is in sympathy with the policies that have made San Francisco one of the progressive cities of the country is sufficient warrant that the administration of its affairs in the present distressing condition of the country is in safe hands.

The "Old Age Security Herald," published in New York, has a write-up of the Santa Clara, California, poorhouse by Harvey Lebron, formerly investigator for the New York Commission on Old-Age Pensions, in its November issue. It paints a horrible picture of the housing facilities for the inmates, while "an up-to-date, hygienic cement building houses the cows." The article declares that "the almshouse is administered extremely badly from the social welfare point of view."

"It would be idle to deny that Labor has suffered a severe setback, but the Labor party is not broken, its spirit is not crushed," said Arthur Henderson, leader of the British Labor party, in a recent interview. "Neither is it discredited. Our total vote is clear proof of the strength of Labor in the constituencies. No one will be able to claim that the new parliament is a fair representation of the opinion of the country."

S. Saklatvala, the only communist ever elected to the British Parliament, was among the casualties in the recent election. He did not get enough votes even to save the deposit candidates are required to put up.

The definition of a communist given by one of the most successful playwrights in Moscow is: "A communist is a person who has nothing and insists on dividing it with everybody."

## GOOD FOR GOOSE—GOOD FOR GANDER

What a tremendous howl there would be in the daily press, chambers of commerce, bar associations and other similar organizations if the governor of Oklahoma had undertaken to close down all of the oil wells on the theory that the workers in the oil fields were not receiving sufficient wages. There would be screaming oratory and eight-column headlines denouncing the use of Russian methods in the suppression of our free "institutions." There would no doubt be the most severe and scathing denunciations of such tactics.

And yet the same tactics devoted toward maintaining a price for crude oil do not draw the least criticism from the self-appointed preservers of our "institutions." Apparently it is very proper to use the militia in protecting profits and maintaining prices, as it has been regarded perfectly proper in the past to use private detective agencies and private police in strikes to the detriment of organized labor.

Perhaps the workers in the oil fields may take their cue from the recent actions of the governors of Oklahoma and Texas and when the opportunity arrives request these two chief executives to call out the militia and guarantee them a living wage. Here's hoping these two governors do not go out of office before the workers in the oil fields have the opportunity to request them to use the militia in their behalf.—"Typographical Journal."



## CHERRY TREE

Wherever men gather the talk these days turns to the question of unemployment and the possible return of that thing called prosperity. When will it return? When will there be jobs? When will there be business?

As time passes one thing stands out as a special symptom of this depression, and of popular feeling. Greater and greater numbers of men who have always hitherto thought everything was all right are now free, drastic and biting in their criticisms.

Pick up your favorite business magazine—chances are you'll find an editorial barb. Even the old "Saturday Evening Post" has been printing startling facts. Pointing out, for instance, as Matthew Wool did more than a year ago, the terrific American investments abroad, and their purport and sinister possibilities.

Oh, these are great days, sure enough—great days for truth telling.

\* \* \*

We can stand truth, great gobs of it. The great difficulty is to translate fundamental truths into terms that mean something to the man who has never dealt in such big truths. Those who probe to the bottom of this depression find abuses in terms of billions of dollars.

The unemployed, sleeping in hallways and byways, think in terms of nickels. A nickel is a cup of coffee and a cup of coffee is hope. Many families lucky enough to have roofs over their heads are thinking in terms of nickels, too. Two nickels can buy a whole lot today.

Mark this down: Until the average man knows what's going on and what needs to be done about it, we may have remedy, but we will have no guarantee the remedy will be permanent.

\* \* \*

Billions of American money have gone abroad for what is called investment. "Securities"—funny word—here at home have gone down so far that States are allowing life insurance companies to quote the June 30 market prices to make their books show something decently removed from disaster.

The great telephone monopoly declares an extra dividend, and so does Woolworth. Many corporations are declaring dividends on stock that represents no money investment—only water—inflation.

Ernest Elmo Calkins, noted business writer, bursts out and says that industry is run by bankers.

Floyd W. Parsons, author, authority, says we—laugh at that "we"—will never get back more than half of the five billion dollars loaned in South America. If that five billion didn't come out of profits which, in large part, could have gone into wages, where did it come from?

\* \* \*

Isn't it true that the evil lies buried deeply in the industrial and financial system? That the abuse has been by men controlling industry and finance? Isn't that, then, the place to put the cure medicine?

There are some who say our worst enemies just now are those who gabble about political nostrums, taking attention away from the place where guilt and responsibility are and centering it on government. Maybe something to that idea.

But this whole business, somehow, has got to be translated into loaves of bread and pounds of meat and house rent and clothes. That can be done. Get your mind on wages and hours of work—and to get action on those vital questions, organize into unions. Enough union men in strong disciplined unions and there'll be no more depression problem—never!

## PRESIDENT AND COMMUNITY CHEST

As a resident of metropolitan San Francisco, President Hoover recently mailed a check for \$5000 to the Community Chest as his contribution to the Chest goal of \$2,500,000 for the relief of distress and suffering during the coming winter in San Francisco. He was asked in a telegram a few days ago for a word of greeting to the 6000 citizens of San Francisco who are volunteering in the Chest army of mercy—a message to be read at the opening campaign luncheon last Wednesday. The President's reply, signed by Secretary Richey, was:

"The President can best signify his support of your efforts by his subscription to the Chest, his check for \$5000, which I am remitting today."

The telegram sent a thrill of encouragement and cheer through Chest ranks. "All of our workers know that this year they are up against the hardest campaign in ten years of Chest history," said Newton W. Stern, chairman of the campaign committee. "Nothing could have inspired us to carry on more than President Hoover's telegram, tersely effective in cash instead of words. It sets an example for every man and woman in San Francisco."

Previously, in a letter to the Community Chest, President Hoover said: "The Community Chest is the most practical method yet devised for raising funds economically and distributing them efficiently for purposes of public charity and social betterment work. I therefore gladly join in the appeal to the public for the most generous response to the current Community Chest campaign."

## UNEMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, has issued the following statement based on unemployment reports for October, received from affiliated organizations:

"October reports from trade unions show that unemployment has increased again. In the first half of October 19.6 per cent of the membership were out of work compared to 19.4 per cent in September (revised figure) and 19.2 per cent in August (weighted figures).

"Our report for cities shows unemployment increasing in fifteen; only eight cities reported an improvement. In Baltimore and Minneapolis the increase in the number out of work has been large; in Pittsburgh and San Antonio the building trades have suffered especially, with more than 50 per cent increase in unemployment. Unemployment is most serious in Detroit, Baltimore, Chicago, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Jersey City, Buffalo, New York and Los Angeles in the order of their listing. In each of these cities over 25 per cent are out of work."

## SUGGESTION TO POSTMASTER TODD

Carmel, small village of famous people, which has an arduous task keeping itself free of Babbitts, poseurs, chambers of commerce, and ugliness, has a new problem. Police officers recently discovered a garbage pile in a gully composed mostly of rejection slips. The postoffice plays such an important part in the life of the village that, in its suggestion for a new building, the "Pine Cone" says: "There should be a large and comfortable ante-room, more like a hotel corridor, with easy chairs, and desks for writers of letters. It should be bright and cheerful, with a blaze in its big fireplace. The postmaster would be host, of course, and might serve afternoon tea at 4:30."—"Westward."

## LAUNDRY WORKERS' BALL

At Knights of Columbus Hall on the night of December 5, Laundry Workers' Union No. 26 will entertain its friends at its annual ball. Special features will add to the enjoyment of the occasion.

## SHORTER WEEK, SAME PAY

The "Joint Committee on Employment," composed of such well-known leaders as the Rev. John A. Ryan of Georgetown University; Bishop Francis J. McConnell, Norman Thomas, Rabbi Edward L. Israel, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise and Harriet Stanton Blatch, meeting in Washington, D. C., on November 1, in announcing its organization issued a public statement. It charged the present administration with misleading the public as to the seriousness of the present problem and dereliction in facing the facts. Increased taxes on the larger incomes were advocated. The committee's statement said:

### Public Has Been Misled

"The nation is beginning the third year of unprecedented unemployment and destitution unprepared and devoid of a clear-cut understanding of the problem with which it is confronted. No government has so misled the public as to the seriousness of the problem as ours. No industrial nation has been so derelict as ours in facing and grappling with the problem of the unemployed.

"Since the adjournment of Congress, many months ago, the index of employment has been moving steadily downward. Yet rather than call together the representatives of the American people for action in meeting this disastrous emergency, the administration has appointed the Gifford committee to urge collecting funds and doling them out to a pauperized citizenry.

### "Most Degrading Dole"

"There are daily attempts to obscure the issue by irresponsible attacks on the British unemployment system, the so-called 'dole.' At this moment the administration's officially appointed committee is brazenly contemplating the placing of nearly 30,000,000 persons on the most degrading dole."

The program for relief of unemployment as suggested by the committee included:

### Six Hours and Five Days

"1. To reduce the hours of labor with a shorter work week with no reduction in the total weekly wage. We believe that emergency laws should be passed limiting the hours of labor to six hours a day and to five days a week.

"2. The time has arrived to stop the employment of children under sixteen.

"3. There is no further need of study or experiment in the matter of unemployment insurance in the United States. It is clear to all that industry is unable or unwilling to establish unemployment insurance. It therefore becomes the duty of both the state and the federal government to create unemployment insurance systems at once.

### Varied Construction Urged

"4. One way to meet the unemployment problem is to launch a construction program. This program should include highways and market roads; grain elevators and other agricultural facilities; public works, long delayed; construction of schools, especially in rural districts; construction of homes for workers out of funds provided by the federal government.

"5. Needs of unemployment can not be met this winter through relief provided by local agencies and supplemented by city and state allowances. It therefore becomes imperative for the federal government, through Congress, to provide a relief fund sufficiently large to meet the needs of the masses. This relief fund, we believe, should be raised by increased taxes in the higher brackets of the federal income and inheritance taxes."

## DEATH OF P. W. STAPLETON

Percy W. Stapleton, a member of the Plumbers' Union, aged 38 years, died in this city on October 31. He was a native of San Francisco and a veteran of the world war.



## IMPROVEMENT SHOWN

Reports received by the United States Employment Service concerning the industrial and employment situation existing throughout the country during September revealed some improvement in several of the major industries. Coal mining, both anthracite and bituminous, increased in volume and thousands of men were recalled to the mines and large numbers who had been working on a part-time basis for many weeks returned to full-time schedules. An increase in activity occurred in the shoe industry and many of these establishments reported full forces employed on a full-time basis. An upward trend was noted in the cigar and cigarette factories which resulted in an increase in employment among these workers. Seasonal influences stimulated employment in the textile industry, especially in the Middle Atlantic states, where large numbers of silk mill workers were absorbed; however, part-time schedules continued in many of these establishments located in other sections of the country. Conditions in the automobile and iron and steel industries showed no change and there was considerable idleness among these workers. Highway construction continued in good volume employing large forces of men. Harvesting of the various fall crops, especially cotton and sugar beets, provided employment for thousands of men. The canning factories and packing houses started their seasonal operations, giving employment to many men and women. While there was some improvement in the industrial situation generally, the larger cities reported considerable unemployment which embraced practically all trades and included professional and clerical help.

### The General Situation

The industrial situation generally showed no improvement during September, and a large surplus of labor of all classes was apparent, which included many transient workers. Agricultural employment increased somewhat, due to the picking and drying of the prune, raisin, and fig crops; the picking and canning of the tomato crop; the harvesting of the beet crop and the operation of the beet-sugar factories; however, most of this work was completed at the close of the month. Some of the agricultural labor released was absorbed in the picking of cotton and the operation of the cotton gins, which have just resumed work for the season that lasts approximately three months. Clothing factories were fairly busy and needle trades showed a moderate improvement in employment. Many building trades men and construction laborers were idle and most of those employed worked on irregular schedules. State highway construction and maintenance afforded employment to a large number of men and state officials will continue this work and increase the number of workers as part of the relief program. The division of highways had contracts under construction at an estimated cost of over \$18,000,000, while contracts to be awarded during October included road projects at an estimated cost of \$2,300,000 and one bridge to cost \$14,100. Railroad operation and maintenance continued on a sub-normal basis with no apparent change anticipated in the next thirty days. A further reduction in oil activities increased the number of unemployed in this industry. Except for a slight increase in gold mining, other mining operations have been practically suspended.

### In San Francisco District

With few industries engaging additional help, considerable unemployment was observed in this territory among both skilled and unskilled workers. Practically all manufacturing plants operated far below normal for this season of the year. The wooden box factories were fairly active. The paper

industries, still greatly curtailed in production, showed a slight improvement. Luggage factories operated with about one-half of their usual forces employed. A sugar refinery, with a force of 950 workers, operated two eight-hour shifts four days a week. A marble plant, usually employing 120 men, had only twenty men at work. Approximately 150 men, or about 90 per cent of the normal force, were employed in certain iron shops. A shipbuilding plant had only a few of its usual number of workers engaged. A motor bus and truck manufacturing plant at Oakland reduced its force, and an engine plant reported only seventy men at work. Some egg packing plants at Petaluma were running at capacity and feed mills are expected to operate an extra shift occasionally. Planing mills at Santa Rosa worked on full-time schedules, but with reduced forces engaged. The reconstruction of an electric substation and the installation of a 26-inch pipe line employed a number of men. Building permits recently issued in San Francisco call for the expenditure of \$1,138,680, in Oakland about \$280,070, and in Berkeley approximately \$146,360. Projects under way in San Francisco city and county included the \$5,000,000 war memorial, a \$700,000 health center building, a \$325,000 office building, a \$300,000 Young Women's Christian Association hotel, a \$200,000 parochial school and home, and a \$75,000 warehouse and shop. Work was also under way on the new Oakland postoffice, the University stadium at Berkeley, a theater at Alameda, two bridges at Napa, and projects totaling in cost \$91,000 at Santa Rosa.

### BARBERS SHOW FIGHT

The Master Barbers' Association of Sacramento proposed a substantial cut in wages. Journeymen Barbers' Local Union No. 112 promptly and unanimously refused to accept the proposed cut, announcing that its members were prepared to fight such reactionary moves to the limit.

### MUST ALTER ECONOMIC SYSTEM

Our "colossal civilization will crash unless we alter our economic system and selfish nationalistic practices to meet changes of this age of science and invention," H. G. Wells, famous British novelist and historian, predicted in a radio talk from New York recently.

### FIGHT ON "YELLOW DOG"

Fortified by Supreme Court Justice Maxey's dissenting opinion in the Nazareth strike injunction case, the American Federation of Full Fashioned Hosiery Workers will continue its decade-long fight against the injunction and yellow dog contract with renewed intense vigor, says a Philadelphia dispatch.

The first step in an immediate campaign directed against the yellow dog contracts, declared "incompatible with the public good" by Justice Maxey, already has been taken.

The hosiery workers' union and the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor have urgently petitioned Governor Pinchot to include the outlawing of the "yellow dog contract" and the banning of the sheriff's proclamation for the special session of the Legislature to convene November 9.

So closely are these two questions allied with the question of unemployment the workers believe it necessary for the Legislature to act upon them at the earliest opportunity, the Governor was told. The special session was called to deal specifically with the unemployment problem. The hosiery union members and the State Federation of Labor believe the solution of unemployment lies deeper than the distribution of relief.

The Socialist party of Pennsylvania has joined in the appeal to the Governor to place the yellow dog contract before the special session for repeal.

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## FROM WAGE BOARD REPORT

The following excerpts from the report of the "Impartial Wage Board" will be of especial interest at this time:

**"Increased Efficiency Has Reduced Labor Costs.**—In general, those persons in the building industry who appeared before the board testified to a great reduction of labor costs due to increased efficiency. The most frequent estimate as to the amount of such reduction is around 25 per cent. Several of the employers who appeared also expressed the belief that building costs in the San Francisco Bay area are lower, and the quality of craftsmanship higher, than in comparable areas having lower scales of wages."

**Suggested Reductions Based on the Cost of Living.**—"Those who requested a reduction in wage rates based their recommendation in part on the reduction in the cost of living, and they seemed to assume that there has been no lowering of labor costs in building. Special emphasis was laid on the desirability of adjusting the cost of the labor factor in proper relation to that which has taken place in the cost of materials. . . . However, no one when questioned denied the reduction of cost due to increased efficiency, and no one maintained that the wage reductions recommended, or any reductions which it would be feasible to make, would have an important immediate effect, under existing conditions, in the direction of stimulating new construction. . . ."

**Reduction in Earnings More Than Offsets Reduction in Cost of Living.**—"Concerning the maintenance of wage scales, evidence was presented which shows conclusively that the workers have suffered such a drastic reduction of earnings through unemployment as to offset many times any gain they may have made through the reduction in the cost of living. There is much distress from this cause. Moreover, the increase in efficiency, due to improved production on the part of the workers, has lowered construction labor costs far more than any reduction in cost that could come from decreasing wage rates."

**Lowering of Standards Ruinous.**—"In the interest of the whole community the activities of such builders as are demoralizing the labor market and the material market through 'cutthroat' competition should be restrained, but lowering standards to meet such competition simply makes a bad matter worse."

**Organization.**—"The board strongly recommends that every effort be made to perfect organization on both sides of the bay, and to bring within the scope of present operations all the responsible building contractors and workers in the industry. Steps should also be taken to secure the largest possible measure of legitimate control over those who remain outside, to the end that the wages and working conditions here laid down, and the measures of co-operation now in force and recommended, may speedily become effective throughout the industry."

## FEDERAL RESERVE SURVEY

Industry and trade in the Twelfth Federal Reserve District continued to mark time at low levels during September, while the harvesting of farm products proceeded satisfactorily, says the monthly survey of that institution. The number of employed decreased by at least the full seasonal amount. Average commodity prices remained about the same during the month. Changes in the banking and credit situation were of considerable significance, currency circulation and the volume of Reserve Bank credit in use increasing by mid-October to the highest levels reached since the immediate post-war period. Deposits and loans of reporting members banks continued to decline.

## SWOPE'S PLAN ADOPTED BY WORKERS

Officials of the General Electric Company announced that 98 per cent of the company's eligible factory workers had approved the plan of Gerard Swope, president of the company, for a division of work to prevent further layoffs between November 1 and April 30, 1932.

The plan provides that all workers on the pay roll on November 1 shall be paid during the six months not less than the equivalent of one-half of their average weekly earnings for full time work, but not less than an average of \$15 a week unless actual earnings are more than this figure, in which case the employees will be paid their actual earnings. This means a possible 50 per cent cut in earnings.

Officials of the General Electric secured approval of Swope's wage slash plan under the so-called "company union."

## OLD AGE PENSIONS IN CALIFORNIA

Approval of pensions for an additional group of 348 indigent aged during September brought the total of pensioned aged in California to 8750 persons, according to the latest announcements of the Division of Old Age Security of the State Department of Social Welfare.

Of the 359 applications acted upon during the month only eleven were denied. The department received 286 new applications during September and, including old applications which are still being investigated, there were pending on September 30, 742 applications.

The state cost involved in the pensioning of the 8750 cases is \$100,661.89 per month, or \$11.50 for the average pensioner. The counties add an equal amount; average pension paid is \$23.

## HOSIERY STRIKERS ENCAMPED

Striking hosiery workers from the Clifton and Bloomfield, N. J., plants of the Interstate Hosiery concern are now encamped at Chalfont, Pa., five miles from Lansdale, and have launched an organization drive directed especially against the Lansdale plant of the Interstate company, says an I. L. N. S. dispatch from Philadelphia.

The tent colony which the strikers have erected saves expensive board and hotel bills and enables the workers to do a big job of union propaganda at a minimum expense. Ex-army and navy cooks in charge of the camp kitchen figure they feed the strikers first rate meals for less than 15 cents per man per meal. Food and gasoline are practically the only expenses of operating the camp.

## WEBER VISITS LOS ANGELES

President Joseph N. Weber of the American Federation of Musicians and Edward Canavan, head of the New York local of Musicians, accompanied by their wives, have been visiting locals and friends in Los Angeles. Both were delegates to the American Federation of Labor from the Musicians, President Weber being a member of the executive council. While in Los Angeles Weber consulted with the committee having in charge the convention arrangements for the International that meets in Los Angeles next June.

## LOCAL USERS OF GAS FAVORED

The bill of the San Francisco gas user, if he lived in Chicago, would be double that which he now pays, according to a comparison in natural gas rates in the two cities worked out by Claude C. Brown, gas and electric engineer of the Railroad Commission.

If he is a user of natural gas for industrial purposes, he would pay for the gas for factory use here approximately one-third of what his bill would be in Chicago.

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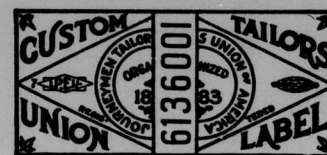


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## RUN O' THE HOOK

(This department is conducted by the president of San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21)

The result of the vote for first vice-president of the I. T. U. is still undetermined, according to latest reports from Indianapolis, and will probably not be definitely known until all returns are received. All returns must be at Indianapolis by Saturday, November 7, when the official tabulation will be made. The results of some of the larger unions are as follows:

City	Baker	Rouse
New York City.....	2213	6011
Chicago.....	1542	1562
Washington, D. C.....	1205	528
Los Angeles.....	359	254
Portland, Ore.....	239	86
Springfield, Ill.....	104	47
Vancouver.....	138	64
Oakland.....	206	25
Boston.....	556	668
Detroit.....	363	277
Cleveland.....	356	224
Indianapolis.....	99	351
Denver.....	182	78
Kansas City.....	311	171
Ft. Worth.....	109	56
Buffalo.....	133	153
Omaha.....	164	81
Toronto.....	335	300
Cincinnati.....	293	149
Philadelphia.....	315	245
St. Louis.....	349	467

The vote by chapels in San Francisco was as follows:

Chapels	Baker	Rouse	Chapels	Baker	Rouse
Abbott-Brady.....	29	7	Norton.....	9	0
Baker-H. & Pac.....	6	0	Pac. Daily Rac. F.....	8	1
Barry.....	11	4	Pernau-Walsh.....	15	1
Bd. of Fire Und.....	5	6	Phillips & Van O.....	8	0
Borden.....	10	0	Recorder.....	17	5
Bosqui.....	6	1	S. F. Call.....	31	19
Brunt.....	15	0	S. F. Chronicle.....	94	7
Calif. Press.....	8	1	S. F. Examiner.....	72	12
Carlisle.....	12	1	S. F. News.....	51	9
Commercial News.....	0	0	Schwabacher-Frey.....	14	1
Crocker-Union.....	12	1	Shopping News.....	8	13
Duifer.....	9	0	Wall St. Journal.....	16	0
Franklin Lino.....	13	1	Williams.....	14	0
Halle.....	17	0	Secretary's.....	141	20
Knight-Counihan.....	22	0			
L'Italia.....	14	0	Totals.....	730	110
MacKenzie & H.....	21	0			
Miller Typo.....	12	0	Total vote—846.		

The constitutional amendment carried in San Francisco by a vote of 471 to 362.

Many unions in California are adopting measures to relieve unemployed members. Oakland, by a vote of 163 to 67, put into effect an assessment to run for six months, beginning with 2 per cent for two months and then 4 per cent for the remaining four months. Regulars engaging substitutes one day each month for the first period, and two days each month for the second period, will be exempt from the assessment. Proprietor members will pay 1 per cent assessment. Cards shall have been on deposit continuously since August 1, 1931, to entitle a member to benefits.

Fresno has also adopted relief measures for its unemployed, the proposition being along similar lines as San Francisco has in force. The vote was 70 for to 27 against.

By a vote of 40 to 20 Stockton adopted a relief proposition, details of which are lacking.

The Hollywood "News," its new building and all its equipment, owned by Col. Ira C. Copley, was purchased recently by the Hollywood "Citizen," owned by Judge Harlan G. Palmer and his brother, O. T. Palmer. The "News" will be consolidated with the "Citizen" and will be produced from the new building of the "News."

On November 2 the Los Angeles "Evening Herald," member of the Hearst chain of papers, opened a three days' celebration commemorating the 20th birthday of its inauguration.

J. F. Kirby, for many years foreman of the "Leader," is reported seriously ill, having been stricken early Sunday morning, November 1.

Al Crackbon, member of the "News" chapel, is around again after having been laid up for some time with an infected foot.

Ross Draper, formerly connected with the Mergenthaler Linotype Company and well known to the trade on the Pacific Coast, was a visitor in San Francisco the past week. Mr. Draper is now connected with a newspaper in Susanville, Calif.

### Call-Bulletins—By "Hoot"

That the energies of printers are not confined to that art alone is noted from the fact that Ernie Clark, the lad who handles the ads, conducted a chess tournament in the Emporium a short while ago in which over 500 contestants took part. It was a great success.

Notice that a lad named Finali won first prize in a drawing lately. Suppose that he hopes it won't be Grand Finali(e).

Showing that everything comes to those who wait, we note that a printer named Bert Yaryan, who resides in Dinuba, after waiting for 35 years, is to share in the estate of the late President Buchanan, amounting to many millions.

Last Saturday, on account of the rush of the football games, we had to enlist the services of our "kid" battery. George Bigler was making up the galleys, while "Kid" Meyer proved them up. And the old boys showed they could still keep up with the parade.

A new kind of gas was discovered by one of the proofreaders recently. In reading a galley of markets he came across the words, "ep gas." The R had been omitted. Our friend the proofreader made it Pep gas.

Since the Community Chest drive has been on, the "Call-Bulletin" has been using "Help Fill the 1932 Chest" instead of "30" dashes. Guess the racketeers in Chicago must have adopted the same slogan, as it was used after a story telling of a raid they made with machine guns.

Guess there must be a shortage of water in a certain part of town as one of the Beau Brummels has been wearing a dark stripe on the upper lip lately. Maybe he hasn't visited the barber lately, or sumthin'.

One of our fishermen was visiting one of the gang in his hotel, taking a fish with him. While there the fisherman called a friend on the phone and informed him: "I'll bring YEZ a fish over." When he had finished the host, who happens to be a Southerner, said: "You sure do murder the English language." "Yeah," says the fisherman, "how come?" "Well," said the Southerner, "you said, 'I'll bring YEZ over a fish.' You ought to have said, 'I'll bring you ALL over a fish.'"

The heavy fog last Sunday was responsible for some curious doings. Joe (Slim) Green, stereotyper, wandered out to the big game at Kezar. After the first half the fog was so thick Joe got peeved and after the game demanded 65 per cent of his admission returned. The ticket taker said he would have to take the matter up with the higher ups. Soon he came back and said that they thought Joe ought to be reimbursed. He asked him for the stub of the ticket. Joe reached down and hauled it out. "Why, we can't give you any refund for that." "Why not?" asks Joe. "Well, you got in on a pass."

"Mike" Sullivan, the genial old soul of the press-room, also was a sufferer from the fog. It seems Mike went out to the game, after advertising the fact. Monday he didn't show up for work. Inquiry at home revealed the fact that he had not come home overnight. An employee of the stadium was appealed to. When the gate was opened, Mike was discovered in his seat, in a fog, waiting for the end of the game.

### "News" Chapel Notes—By L. L. Heagney

A banquet in the Argonaut Hotel, across the street from the "News," with between 70 and 80 present, representing all departments of the paper, marked Bill Davy's sixty-ninth birthday. At 8:30, doors being locked and only invited guests allowed

to enter, Phil Sinnott, coast manager of N. E. A., bon vivant and after-dinner orator, took his place as toastmaster, a position he filled satisfactorily, his sallies of wit, leveled at those he called on for speeches, evoking guffaws loud and long. Letters and telegrams of congratulations from other jurisdictions of the I. T. U. were read, as was an embossed set of good wishes signed by the banqueteers. Tokens of esteem were presented to the honor guest, one of which was a 20-volume biography of Theodore Roosevelt, Mr. Davy's exemplar of robust Americanism and statesmanship.

"Letters of a Lame-Duck Congressman to His Successor," by Representative Royal C. Johnson of South Dakota, a "Saturday Evening Post" feature of October 24, uses Al Adams as a principal. Mr. Adams, proprietor of the "Courier," Sisseton, S. D., and Republican county chairman, is a brother of Chuck Adams, "News" operator. Chuck entertains profound admiration for his brother, whose example in starting his own paper and making a place in the political, business and social life of his state Chuck harbors an ambition to imitate.

The vote in this chapel on October 28 stood: Baker 51, Rouse 9. Proposition: For 43, against 17. Talking of voting, it was comical to hear Harry Crotty's picturesque verbiage when the tellers—Bengston, Bartholomew and Brewster—unable to find his name on the roster, refused to let him vote. Woof, nobody could Rouse mit Crotty; he'd have his rights if he had to slit somebody's woozen, etc., etc.

Ownership of Al Moore's Ford passed to Joe Sullivan last week on passing of a few simoleons.

In the gents' boudoir a poster of startling vivacity depicts changes of expression in Vic Cimino's countenance, from hopeful incredulity to rapturous possession, indicating moods before and after obtaining his apprentice card. Yep, Jerry Wright stood the acid test and became a journeyman—a consummation Vic was fearful something might prevent.

We wish Bill Hammond, unexpectedly taken sick last Saturday, a speedy recovery, all of us feeling he's had more than his share of illness lately.

Marked illegibly, Eddie Porter deciphered it "rest room," but it really read, "reset Roman."

It's bad enough now, says Alfie Moore, but if the world suddenly turned honest the depression, I fear, would become cataclysmic, what with police, detectives, night watchmen, racketeers, insurance people, etc., etc., out of jobs. Yes, it's dreadful to contemplate but quite probably my fears are entirely groundless.

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Official Undertaker of S. F. Typographical Union 21

We have the largest payroll in the history of our store.

We have not reduced wages in a single instance.

Your continued patronage will help us keep this record.



1041 MARKET STREET



## MAILER NOTES

By LEROY C. SMITH

The vote for first vice-president, when analyzed, will doubtless show many surprises. No. 18 gave C. M. Baker 47, and Leon Rouse 12; proposition No. 1, for 28, against 31. The "Chronicle" chapel voted 25 solid for Baker. The "Call-Bulletin" chapel gave Rouse 11 votes. The "Examiner" chapel gave Rouse one vote. The Daily "News" chapel went solid for Baker.

Milwaukee Mailers' Union No. 23, I. T. U., went on record as a 100 per cent Progressive local. The vote: C. M. Baker, 68; Leon Rouse, 0. Hutchinson, Kansas Typos No. 243, gave Baker 33, Rouse 8. Los Angeles Mailers' Union No. 9, "Herald" chapel, Baker 14, Rouse 2; "Express" chapel, Baker 1 Rouse 14.

Have information that many members of Big Six Typos, strange as it may seem, who refused to vote for Rouse for president of Big Six, voted for him for first vice-president of the I. T. U.

The writer has reliable information that President Hewson of Big Six Typos is trying to get the Publishers' Association to base negotiations on the Hearst six-hour plan.

The Progressive Club of New York City has voted to participate in local elections. The left-wingers have joined up, too. A probable aftermath of the Baker-Rouse race for first vice-president of the I. T. U. will be a uniting of the Progressive factions in one camp and the Administration factions in another. All in all, the coming campaign for I. T. U. offices promises to be a hot one. A good, lively scrap would probably be healthy for all concerned.

## TAILORS' UNION LABEL CAMPAIGN

Journeyman Tailors' Union No. 80 of San Francisco is making a telling fight for the recognition of its union label, and the demand for that emblem is on the increase. Recently the design of the label was changed and the number of cuts of the new design available was not equal to the demand. Advertisers in the Labor Clarion have been supplied with the new label.

The union reports that the following firms are entitled to use of the Tailors' Union Label and to the patronage of organized labor and its friends: Boss, the Tailor, 1034 Market street; Cab Tailors, 243 Turk street; Dick Cullen, 2653 Mission street; John Eller, 45 Stockton street; Joe Fass, 2974 Mission street; Golden Gate Tailoring Company, 3082 Sixteenth street; Herman, the Tailor, 1104 Market street; Johnson's Clothing Company, 2544 Mission street; Kelleher & Browne, 716 Market street; Herman Niesing, 4063 Twenty-fourth street; Rosenblum & Abraham Company, 1084 Market street; Al Sandell, 830 Market street; Chas. F. Wachter, 2413 Bryant street.

## PHOTO-ENGRAVERS' PRESIDENT HERE

Edward J. Volz, president of the International Photo-Engravers' Union of North America, was in the city several days last week, conferring with members of the local union and with Secretary O'Connell of the Labor Council. He was also in conference with local employers. As a result of his visit it is probable that the situation confronting the local union will be improved. Mr. Volz attended the recent convention of the American Federation of Labor in Vancouver, and was on his way to his headquarters in New York.

## PLAN TO STIMULATE EMPLOYMENT

President Hoover's Organization on Unemployment Relief has recommended to communities the development of home-modernizing campaigns with a fall and winter impetus as a means to stimulate employment and business, it is announced by Fred C. Croxton, assistant director.

## BRITISH LABOR LEADER DEAD

A. J. Cook, leader of the disastrous general strike in Great Britain in 1926, died in Hampstead on November 2 at the age of 47. For many years he was general secretary of the Miners' Federation, and was dubbed "Emperor" Cook during the strike.

Cook joined the Independent Labor party in 1905, served on three government coal commissions and was the government's delegate to the International Coal Conference at Geneva. He worked underground as a miner for twenty-one years. He served prison terms in 1918 and 1921 for taking part in strikes and lockouts.

In 1927 he led an army of 400 Welch miners in a march from Bristol to London to present the case of the unemployed to Parliament.

## CHARGE VIOLATION OF LAW

A complaint has been filed with the Railroad Commission by Harry See, state representative of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, against The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway Company, charging violation of the California full crew law.

The complaint specifically charges that on October 2 the railroad company permitted a freight train to be operated of more than 49 cars on its Valley Division between Hammond and Calwa in Fresno county, a distance of five miles, with a crew consisting of one conductor, and two brakemen.

## ACTION WORTHY OF EMULATION

Bakers' Union No. 37 of Los Angeles has announced that the Langendorf Baking Company, one of the largest institutions of that nature in the city, has placed its union employees upon a five-day basis with no loss in pay, also that the company in many instances pays over the established scale. Langendorf's has been on an eight-hour basis right along, and is reported as being 100 per cent union and working in complete harmony in every way with the Bakers' Union.

## MOLDERS WILL DANCE

Molders' Union No. 164 announces a dance to be given by that organization on the evening of November 21 at Labor Temple.

## CITY WORKERS' FUND

Announcement is made that the organization of the city employees' relief fund has been completed with the appointment of three committees to handle the fund during the emergency period. Every city official and employee will contribute one day's pay a month to the fund and, as announced last week, the first month's donation, that of November, will be contributed to the Community Chest.

It is also announced that the committee of the whole has directed that the executive committee may make special contributions for annual Thanksgiving and Christmas funds.

A regular budget system has been established with semi-monthly posting of a summary of all collections and disbursements. A special committee to bring about a 100 per cent contribution in all departments has been named.

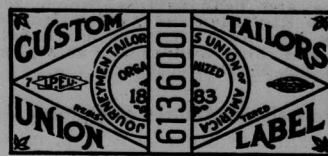
The executive committee will be James J. Maher, chairman, Civil Service; J. Emmet Hayden, Board of Supervisors; S. J. Hester, Board of Public Works; W. J. Quinn, Chief of Police; Charles J. Brennan, Fire Chief; B. F. Weisinger, Department of Electricity; John F. Brady, Department of Education; David P. Hardy, Department of Education; Anthony G. Knight, Department of Elections; John Hannon, Board of Public Works, and Duncan Matheson, Treasurer.

Hardy heads the auditing committee, with Quinn, Brennan, Hester and Maher as the other members.

Buy union-made goods. Employ union men.

## CAB TAILORS

243 Turk Street



UNION-MADE CLOTHES

On Weekly Installments

LOUIS ABRAMS, Prop.

REDLICK-NEWMAN  
COMPLETE HOME FURNISHERS  
Southeast Corner 17th and Mission Sts.

## COMPLETE HOME FURNISHERS

ON CREDIT

HEADQUARTERS FOR

OCCIDENTAL

STOVES AND RANGES

## POMPEII MACARONI FACTORY, Inc.

Manufacturers of

HIGH-GRADE GOODS

Oakland Branch: 501 Franklin Street

Phone Lakeside 1240

Los Angeles Branch: 105 Court Street

2987 Folsom St., near 26th, San Francisco

Phone Mission 5744

Phone Market 170

UNION STORE

## BROWN &amp; KENNEDY

FLORAL ARTISTS

Funeral Work a Specialty—Lowest Prices

3089 Sixteenth St., Near Valencia San Francisco

William W. Hansen  
Dan F. McLaughlin  
Geo. J. AsmussenManager  
President  
Secretary

## United Undertakers

Established July, 1882

2596 HOWARD STREET at Twenty-second  
New Funeral Home and Chapel  
Telephone Mission 0276This Sign  
your Guide

To the dealer who gives  
real service in a complete  
assortment of work and  
outing clothing for men  
and boys.

ELOESSER-HEYNE-MANN CO.  
San Francisco Los Angeles Portland  
1928



## S. F. LABOR COUNCIL

Labor Council meets every Friday at 8 p. m. at Labor Temple, Sixteenth and Capp streets. Secretary's office and headquarters, Room 205, Labor Temple. The Executive and Arbitration Committee meet every Monday at 7:30 p. m. Label Section meets first and third Wednesdays at 8 p. m. Headquarters phone, Market 0056.

### Synopsis of Minutes of October 30

Meeting called to order at 8:15 p. m. by President D. P. Haggerty.

**Roll Call of Officers**—All present.

**Communications**—Filed—Minutes of the Building Trades Council. From Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union, stating that the Ward Baking Company is still unfair.

Referred to Executive Committee—From Lawrence Central Labor Union, an appeal for financial assistance in behalf of the Textile Workers who are on strike against a 10 per cent reduction in wages. From the San Diego Federated Trades and Labor Council, relative to the unemployment situation in this state. From Automobile Mechanics' Union, complaint against the Spreckels Creamery. From Musicians' Union No. 6, requesting the Council to place the Bagdad Ball Room, on Ellis street, on the "We Don't Patronize List." From Journeymen Tailors' Union, inclosing list of fair tailors using their label.

Referred to Labor Clarion—From Journeymen Tailors' Union, list of fair tailor shops using its label: Boss the Tailor, Cab Tailors, Dick Cullen, John Eller, Joe Fass, Golden Gate Tailoring Co., Herman the Tailor, Johnson Clothing Co., Kelleher & Brown, Herman Niesing, Rosenberg & Abrahams Co., Chas. F. Wachter.

**Reports of Unions**—Cleaners and Dyers' Union—Is making progress in its organizing work; Independent Cleaners unfair; demand the union card when having clothes cleaned; Red Front stores are unfair. Cracker Bakers—Loose-Wiles Company has taken over the Standard Biscuit Company; requested a demand for the Sunshine brand. Street Carmen—Reported that the wife of Richard Cornelius was in financial difficulties and very sick; notified Council of its intention to hold a raffle to assist her. Waitresses—Will hold a dance at California Hall, Saturday evening, October 31; invited all delegates to attend.

**Report of Delegate to the A. F. of L. Convention**—Secretary O'Connell submitted a very interesting and lengthy report of the proceedings of the convention. Moved to accept the report and delegate commended, and report referred to Labor Clarion for publication; motion carried.

**Auditing Committee**—Reported favorably on all bills and warrants were ordered drawn for same.

**Report of Trustees**—Trustees reported having examined the books and found them correct.

**New Business**—Moved that the case of Mrs. Cornelius be referred to the Executive Committee; motion carried.

**Receipts**—\$194.02. **Expenses**—\$313.72.

Council adjourned at 9:30 p. m.

Faternally submitted.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secretary.

## BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL

The regular weekly meeting of the San Francisco Building Trades Council was called to order by President James B. Gallagher on Thursday evening, October 29.

Business Agent F. P. Nicholas reported on details connected with the construction of the War Memorial.

Among the communications received was one from the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' Union, calling attention to the fact that Ward bread and cakes not bearing the union label were unfair to union labor. Frank L. Storry requested the indorsement of the Council for the position

of superintendent of the War Memorial building, and the request was laid over.

C. J. Haggerty, organizer of the Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers' Union, stated that the Lackman job in San Mateo had been running with non-union lathers, who were paid \$2 less than the union scale, and that Mr. Lackman wanted the job to be 100 per cent union, and in order to have the contractor employ union men, agreed to pay him the difference between the cost of the union men and the non-union men, thereby unionizing the job. He stated that this cost Mr. Lackman about \$500 extra, and that all our members should take this under consideration and give Mr. Lackman all the patronage possible. He also stated that through the efforts of James I. Herz, director of the State Department of Public Works, the lathers working on the state building in Los Angeles are now being paid their scale, which is \$2 a day higher than the scale which had previously been paid. Mr. Herz stated he would do everything in his power at any time to see that the prevailing wage scale was paid on all state work.

## ELECTION RESULTS

The city election on Tuesday last brought a few disappointments to organized labor, but on the whole the results were generally satisfactory. The defeat of two staunch union men for supervisors is to be regretted, and the defeat of the school bonds is cause for concern among those who have the cause of the educational system at heart. The following were the successful candidates:

Mayor—Angelo J. Rossi.

District Attorney—Matthew Brady.

Municipal Court Judges—Thomas F. Prendergast, Joseph M. Golden, George W. Schonfeld, Alfred J. Fritz, George J. Steiger.

Supervisors—Jesse C. Colman, Arthur M. Brown, Andrew J. Gallagher, Alfred Roncovieri, Sam T. Breyer, Warren Shannon.

Sheriff—W. J. Fitzgerald.

Assessor—Russell L. Wolden.

The Union Labor party's candidates were generally successful. These were: Rossi for mayor, Wolden for assessor, Brady for district attorney, Gallagher, Shannon, Roncovieri and Colman for supervisors, and Prendergast, Schonfeld, Golden, Fritz and Steiger for municipal judges.

## WE DON'T PATRONIZE LIST

The concerns named below are on the "We Don't Patronize List" of the San Francisco Labor Council. Members of Labor Unions and sympathizers are requested to cut this out and post it.

American Tobacco Company.

Austin's Shoe Stores.

Block, J., Butcher, 1351 Taraval.

Bella Roma Cigar Co.

Co-Op Manufacturing Company.

Clinton Cafeterias.

Domestic Hand Laundry, 218 Ellis.

Ernest J. Sultan Mfg. Co.

E. Goss & Co., Cigar Mfg., 113 Front.

Foster's Lunches.

Goldstone Bros., manufacturers of Dread-

naught and Bodyguard Overalls.

"Grizzly Bear," organ of N. S. G. W.

Hollywood Dry Corporation and its Products.

Independent Cleaning & Dyeing Plant, and

Red Front Stores.

Kress, S. H., Stores.

Manning's, Inc., Coffee and Sandwich Shops.

Market Street R. R.

Mann Manufacturing Company, Berkeley.

Milk Producers' Assn. of Central California.

Producers of "Modesto" and "Challenge"

Butter.

National Biscuit Co., Chicago, products.

Purity Chain Stores.

Steinberg's Shoe Store, 2650 Mission.

Steinberg's Shoe Store, 1600 Fillmore.

The Mutual Stores Co.

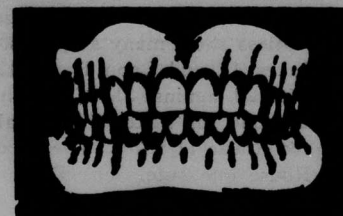
Torino Bakery, 2823 Twenty-third.

Traung Label & Litho Co.

Union Furniture Co., 2075 Mission.

All Barber Shops open on Sunday are unfair.

Buy union-made goods and give employment to union men and women.



**Beautiful Set of Nature Tinted Teeth**  
\$12.50 up

Gold or Porcelain Crowns.....\$5.00

Painless Extracting.....\$1.00

"If it hurts don't pay"

Bridgework.....\$5.00

Gold Inlays.....\$5.00 up

Fillings.....\$1.00 up

ALL WORK GUARANTEED

Credit Given Gladly

**DR. J. C. CAMPBELL**

942 MARKET STREET

**The Rochester Clothing Co.**

Established 1906

Clothing, Furnishings and Hats

CORNER MISSION AND THIRD

Specializing in

Union-made Clothing and Furnishings

Telephone Market 0143

**CAVANAUGH**  
**OVERALL SERVICE**

340 Eleventh Street

San Francisco

California



LOOK FOR THIS SIGN WHEN HAVING  
WORK DONE ON YOUR CAR

**JACQUARD DAVENPORT BED**

\$77.50

**A Remarkably Well-Built Bed**

for the small bungalow, flat or apartment. The quality of Jacquard and the construction is guaranteed the best money can buy for a moderate price.

**Eastern Outfitting Company**

1017 MARKET STREET, NEAR 6TH ST.

**UNFAIR CLEANERS AND DYERS**

The following have been placed on the unfair list of the San Francisco Labor Council:

**Independent Cleaning & Dyeing Works**

1745 Howard Street

**Red Front Cleaning Stores**  
(Chain Store System)

Cleaners, Dyers and Pressers' Union  
No. 17960

Retail Cleaners and Dyers' Union  
No. 18182



## Delegate O'Connell's Report

(Continued from Page One)

be formed from local Women's Auxiliaries, and after debate, convention concurred in that recommendation.

At the end of the proceedings of the fourth day there was published, probably at the suggestion of Delegate Furuseth, the text of the anti-injunction bill as finally indorsed by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor. This bill will be introduced at the next session of Congress, and was criticized by Delegate Furuseth and defended by Delegates Woll and Olander at the last session of the convention.

### Employers Coerced by Bankers

On Friday morning, the fifth day, Organizer Marks of the American Federation of Labor, at the suggestion of President Green, addressed the convention on his investigation of the strike of the textile workers at Lawrence, Mass. The cause of the strike was a reduction in wages decreed by the employers. It was stated by Organizer Marks that in this case the bankers had exerted their powers over the employers to force the reduction in wages, and that it was a bad record against the bankers and their responsibilities in aggravating the effects of the present business depression. The situation in the textile towns of Massachusetts has been still further made difficult and unbearable by the actions of the communists, who have sought to take advantage of the conditions to break up the legitimate labor organizations and further their own cause of anarchy and chaos. The speaker thanked the Federation for its decision to promote the cause of the United Textile Workers in the South, and stated that the Southern campaign had borne good fruit and that their organization has now a good membership in the Southern states.

Committee on Shorter Work Day submitted a most interesting report dealing with various portions of the report of the Executive Council, among which were the five-day week, shorter work day for government employees, opposing regulation of the working day by law, and also opposing Resolution No. 67, which advocated the designation of a fixed date for inauguration of a six-hour day and a five-day week. The convention concurred in the report of the committee.

Committee of Adjustment and Committee on Building Trades submitted reports on several minor matters, which were approved. The latter committee dealt with the "lowest bidder fallacy," on which it stated the following:

"Upon that portion of the Executive Council's report under the above caption, pages 125, 126, the committee reports:

"We note with pleasure that the Executive Council has prepared a bill to be introduced in the next Congress providing that awards of contracts shall be made to the 'bidder whose bid, conforming to the specifications, will be most advantageous to the government, price and other factors considered.'"

The convention approved this recommendation, which may prove also of great advantage for introduction into municipal and state regulation of awards of contracts for public work and supplies.

Committee on Legislation reported next, a great number of topics contained in the report of the Executive Council having been referred to this committee. In connection with recommendation of the committee for legislation to establish the prevailing wage in contracts for public building construction, committee recommended, and convention concurred, in Resolution No. 52, proposed by the delegate from the California State Federation of Labor, Edward McLaughlin, to the effect that the federal prevailing wage law be made applicable to all federal projects.

Resolution No. 12, by Delegate John P. Frey,

of the Metal Trades Department, favoring legislation for construction and repair of naval vessels in government navy yards, was approved.

Wages for federal employees under the Welch bill were supported, and the practice of seeking to lower wage standards by failure of Congress to appropriate sufficient moneys for salary purposes was condemned.

The proposal to establish a federal tax on sales was condemned in vigorous terms, and the American Federation of Labor will strenuously oppose any such system of taxation.

On the use of convict labor, committee states: "Under this head the Executive Council sets forth the encouraging progress attained in making effective the Hawes-Cooper law restricting the sale of convict-made goods. It is the Council's idea to have every state adopt the state-use system, and then prohibit the sale within its borders of convict-made goods from other states. Illinois, Maine, New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey have enacted the necessary laws." The discussion of the report made it plain that the so-called state-use system of convict labor relates only to the use of such labor in the manufacture of goods, and not in the construction of buildings of any kind. However, the discussion brought out that in many instances this clear division in the use of convict labor has not been adhered to in many instances, and it will therefore be the task of the Federation and its affiliates to minimize as much as possible the use of convicts in the construction and maintenance of buildings within the prison gates.

### Age Limit and an Anecdote

The age limit of government employees also received attention and the discussion of that subject consumed considerable time in an endeavor to secure a liberalization in the rules and practices of various government services. An interesting story was told about an old machinist employed during the war, who was over 72 years of age, but through whose knowledge and experience of the trade the factory which had an order for changing the rifling in a lot of old guns was able to produce a machine that did the work to perfection. This feat so delighted the general in charge that he ordered the compensation increased five times the ordinary wage, and no longer found he any objection to the employment of a lot of old mechanics who were found to be the only machinists able and competent to satisfactorily do the work required in that particular factory, which that general before this experience had characterized deprecatingly as "For heaven's sake, what is this—an old man's home?"

Committee on Legislation covered a mass of other proposed meritorious legislation, all of which will be up for discussion again when such legislation is again pending for adoption by Congress.

Convention at 5:30 Friday evening then adjourned to 9:30 a. m. the following Tuesday, to give committees a chance for the holding of hearing on matters referred, and with no sessions on Monday, which was the Canadian Day of Thanksgiving. The grand ball took place in the ballroom of the Vancouver Hotel on the evening of that day and was a brilliant affair.

Tuesday, October 13, was the sixth day of the convention, and was taken up with reports of committees, who had held their hearings and were now ready to submit their recommendations.

Committee on Legislation, among a number of subjects considered, disapproved of finger printing in government employments, and the convention concurred.

The subject that consumed most time and debate by the convention related to the Executive Council's report and a number of resolutions dealing with the personnel classification legislation pending in Congress.

The Executive Council recommended that the personnel classification bill pending in Congress be opposed, on account of its many revolutionary features, repealing existing classification acts, and conferring arbitrary powers on the personnel classification board, introducing and dividing trades into as high as from 75 to 100 classifications, the wages for which will be arbitrarily set by the proposed board.

### Overrides Committee Report

The majority of the committee on legislation recommended that the subject matter be referred for further consideration and action by the Executive Council. A minority report by three members of the committee recommended approval and adoption of the report on the subject submitted by the Executive Council. The debate that ensued was one of the features of this convention, and brought out the many diverging views on the subject. It would be impracticable and consume too much time to outline the various viewpoints submitted, but the proceedings set out the arguments at great length, and anyone desiring full information must as a matter of course read the proceedings dealing with the debate. On call for a vote between the two sides, the report submitted by the minority was adopted by 140 votes against 50. In passing, it may be stated that this occasion was the only one during this convention that a report of a committee was turned down, and the vote was so decisive that it is plain that pending legislation at Washington will meet with great opposition on the part of organized labor. It appears plainly that federal government employees are up against the same problems of classification as we already have been experiencing in San Francisco, and that the subject matter is one of the great employment problems to be ventilated during the coming years, before a satisfactory solution thereof may be reached.

At the conclusion of the morning session gifts were presented to the fraternal delegates as a remembrance to them of their visit to the United States and attendance at this convention. Each of the fraternal delegates was presented with a time-piece, and likewise one for their wives, who accompanied them on this visit to the United States.

At the afternoon session of the sixth day the Committee on Laws submitted its report. Resolution No. 38, proposing an amendment to the A. F. of L. constitution requiring affiliation of organizations with the respective departments, was reported on adversely.

President Green spoke on the report at length, after which it was adopted by unanimous vote.

Committee on Education submitted a most comprehensive and interesting report, too lengthy for mention herein, but well worthy of more intimate study by those of our members who take the trouble to read the proceedings and desire such information.

The seventh and eighth days' proceedings contain so many matters that your delegate almost despaired of being able to convey to the delegates of this Council any real worthwhile resume of same. However, I shall endeavor, in most concise fashion possible to convey to you the significant decisions made by this convention.

Vice-President Matthew Woll presented the report of the Committee on Resolutions, one of the important committees, to which the many new and knotty matters of policy had been referred. Secretary Olander read the report of the committee, dealing first with a number of topics considered in the report of the Executive Council. This part of the report concludes as follows:

"We will be grossly negligent of our duty to ourselves and the great mass of wage earners if we do not now determine to give full application to our rights. In the establishment of any general labor policy, the wage earners who are to be



affected by it must have an equal if not a dominant voice in determining what that policy shall be.

#### Priceless Heritage of Liberty and Equality

We declare our unqualified faith in friendly conferences and negotiations with employers as the most effective method of maintaining just, humane and satisfactory industrial relations. We unqualifiedly reaffirm our faith and loyalty to the principles of collective bargaining through trade unions. We emphatically affirm that the time has come when these policies for which our trade union movement has always stood must be given a wider and more practical application throughout industry, and that if industry refuses to permit us to apply these methods in working out our industrial problems we must then use the militant strength of our trade union movement to establish them." And more to the same effect, that "our movement does not exist to ask for favors, it does not exist that wage earners by bending a suppliant knee might be given minor consideration by industrial dictators. It exists to establish in everyday practice those principles of human liberty and equality of rights which are our priceless heritage, a heritage which we are determined to defend and apply more actively in the future than we ever have in the past."

On the question of "Unemployment" committee reported on the recommendations of the Executive Council and policies advocated in a number of resolutions. Committee recommended adoption of the report of the Executive Council on the general subject, "Extent of Unemployment," in lieu of the numerous resolutions referred to. Delegate from the Washington Central Labor Union sought to amend the committee's recommendation as follows: "I move that the American Federation of Labor stand committed to unemployment relief through federal appropriation, pending the working out of the unemployment program submitted by the Executive Council in its report." The debate that ensued showed that the report of the Executive Council covered the ground covered by the amendment, and a good deal more, as means of immediate relief. The amendment was therefore defeated and committee's report adopted.

#### Debate on Unemployment Insurance

The subject of unemployment insurance was dealt with separately by the same committee on resolutions, and brought out the most animated and interesting debate of the convention. The arguments for and against were ably and exhaustively presented, and the debate lasted several hours, and was participated in by a great array of talent.

The report of the Executive Council on the subject reviewed existing systems in Great Britain and Germany, and showed how the compulsory and dictatorial features of any workable system fit in badly with the principles, practices and temper of American trade union movement. Persons who refuse to accept any job that may be offered to an unemployed person lose their right to benefits, and they are required to accept almost any kind of job offered, union or non-union, and part of their usual trade or not. Such a system if inaugurated here will totally destroy our American trade union movement, and be an instrument with which to make it totally ineffective, not to mention the difficulties to be encountered in keeping such a system solvent. During the present depression all over the world, the contributions of employers and employees have been insignificant, and the burden has been placed on the governments, which also have been unable to support the system, so that when benefits are most needed they will fail; and thus it will fail as a permanent and dependable means of combating unemployment.

Those who favored unemployment insurance presented also impressive arguments and, while acknowledging the defects of the great national European systems, were of the opinion that organized on different lines they might prove both

practical and of great advantage to the trade union movement. They thought also that aid against unemployment can be secured on insurance principles and that it will be the duty of all government, federal, state and municipal, to provide protection and aid to all persons able and willing but unable to find work. The debate was very instructive, on whatever side of the question the hearer might be found. Finally the debate was closed and the motion to adopt the report of the committee, disapproving of unemployment insurance, was carried.

#### Much Work on Last Day

The last day of the convention, the eighth day, Thursday, October 15, was a busy day.

Committee on Resolutions continued its report, and passed on a great number of subjects, among them several presented by delegates from the Pacific Coast states. Delegate Edward McLaughlin had a number of resolutions on behalf of the California State Federation of Labor.

Resolution No. 51, favoring the quota system for immigration from Mexico, was concurred in.

Resolution No. 41, introduced by your delegate, dealing with the question of exclusion of Asiatics from the American merchant marine, and the passage of the King Bill by Congress, was amended slightly, recommended for adoption, and recommendation concurred in by the convention.

Resolution No. 47, on behalf of the California State Federation of Labor was concurred in, and deals with proposed exclusion of Filipino laborers.

On the subject of prohibition the convention indorsed the recommendation of the Executive Council for the modification of the Volstead act, so as to permit the manufacture and sale of beer, and disapproved of some resolutions advocating the immediate repeal of the Eighteenth amendment in its entirety, it being thought impractical at the present time to secure such repeal.

All resolutions dealing with labor conditions and construction of the Boulder Dam were referred to the Executive Council for proper consideration and action, no one resolution, in the opinion of the committee, being sufficient to take care of the entire situation.

On non-partisan political activity the convention approved the suggestion of the Executive Council that certain labor planks be prepared and submitted for indorsement by the approaching conventions of the great national political parties.

The election of officers was quickly accomplished, all former executives being re-elected with no loss of time or display of oratory, as is usual in most conventions.

Joseph A. Franklin, International President of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers, and E. E. Millivan of Maintenance of Way Employees were elected fraternal delegates to the British Trade Union Congress, and James B. Power of Commercial Telegraphers was elected fraternal delegate to the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress.

Cincinnati and Washington, D. C., were contenders for next convention city, and Cincinnati won the nomination.

The afternoon session dealt with the unfinished business, a mass of propositions being acted upon with great dispatch and without much debate, excepting a few matters relative to jurisdictional differences, and the question of injunction legislation.

In regard to labor injunctions, Resolution No. 61, sponsored by Delegate Buzzell of Los Angeles Central Labor Council, advocating general practice of ignoring such injunctions and taking the consequence, was defended by Delegate Andrew Furuseth and opposed by Delegates Woll and Olander. Committee recommended non-concurrence and stated that legislation was the only practical means of combating anti-labor injunctions. The convention adopted the recommendation of the committee.

Among the resolutions adopted without debate was Resolution No. 60, introduced by Delegate Buzzell of Los Angeles, and incorporating verbatim the entire resolution adopted by the Santa Barbara convention dealing with the Mooney case. The committee suggested but one amendment, to the effect that in the future all financial appeals in behalf of Mooney and Billings, in addition to the sanction from the Executive Council of the California State Federation of Labor, also be subject to this additional requirement, to wit:

#### California Mooney Action Indorsed

"Resolved, By the American Federation of Labor in its fifty-first annual convention, that the President and Secretary be instructed to communicate with all national and international unions, state federations of labor, and central labor bodies, advising them that no appeal for funds on behalf of the Mooney-Billings cases receive any consideration unless such appeal bears the approval of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor."

The convention adopted a memorial in behalf of Peter J. Brady, the deceased chief of the Federation Bank and Trust Company of New York, and former president of the International Union of Photo Engravers, and prominent in the trade union movement of New York and other Eastern states.

Questions of our relations with the Pan-American Federation and the International Labor Office at Geneva were referred for investigation to the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor.

The convention adjourned sine die at 6:45 p. m., Thursday, October 15, 1931.

#### Appreciation by Delegate

In conclusion your delegate desires to express his most sincere thanks and appreciation to the delegates of the San Francisco Labor Council for being privileged to attend this convention. I believe that I have profited greatly by what I heard and saw at this convention, and feel that I am greatly indebted to my colleagues in this Council for this great opportunity to make further contacts and become more intimately acquainted with the representatives of our movement thus gathered together for the purpose of securing an exchange of views and arriving at conclusions that may be of benefit to each one of us in the trials and tribulations, the undertakings and achievements of days to come.

Fraternally submitted.

JOHN A. O'CONNELL,

Delegate to the Fifty-first Convention of the American Federation of Labor.

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